

## INSPECTOR HALL VISITS HAWAII

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Inspector Hall is not a stranger to Hawaii, but he is a stranger to the "New Hawaii." Many of the old-timers remember him when he came down here in 1900 to organize the U. S. postoffice service after annexation. At that time he visited every plantation and camp in the islands, laying the foundation for the present postal system.

"But I haven't been down here since I took charge of the division three years ago, so I thought it was about time I should take a trip to Hawaii and look into postoffice matters here," said Inspector Hall this morning.

Although he has been here but a few hours, the inspector has already made some tentative plans for bettering the service, and these plans are of interest to every person in the islands. Recognizing the unavoidable manner in which mail piles up on the Honolulu office because of the steamer arrivals, and recognizing also that in the local office very often a mass of incoming mail has to be handled at the same time a mass of outgoing mail clamors for attention, Inspector Hall is now at work upon a plan based on the "routing" of mail by the San Francisco office. Under this plan, the mail reaching here would be made up for carriers and boxes in the San Francisco offices, as well as routed for various island ports. The details of the plan have not yet been decided upon, but Inspector Hall this morning expressed confidence that a much-improved scheme for handling the mail can be worked out and that some of the strain can be taken off the local office with a consequent increase in efficiency that will be felt throughout the territory. As Mr. Hall puts it, Honolulu is trying to handle the mails of 1912 with the facilities of 1900.

Hawaii's postal service has a firm friend in the inspector. A talk with him this morning shows that he is deeply interested in this part of his division and appreciates the difficulties encountered here and will bend every energy toward doing away with them.

Another thing that Inspector Hall will look into during his stay is the matter of a postal savings bank for the territory. More than a year ago the plan was approved and later the Hilo office was designated for the first bank. Since that time the postal officials here have forwarded much data to the mainland about various offices, but as yet no steps have been taken to establish the postal bank in the territory. It is understood there is some question as to whether, with Hawaii's large alien population, the bank should be established now.

## Like "Blue Sky Law."

Inspector Hall was interested this morning in the report that a "blue sky law" will be presented to the next legislature, with the view of preventing fake-stock swindles and the like. The postoffice department long ago declared war on the vendors of fake stocks and those who attempt to "put over" swindles through the mails, and this federal branch of government heartily supports and indorses moves by states or territories to pass legislation dealing with the vital subject.

"California is now considering a 'blue sky law' and I tell you if it passes it will be one of the greatest things for my division that ever happened," said Hall this morning.

Inspector Hall is one of the best men in Uncle Sam's service at breaking up just these swindles. For years he has roamed up and down the coast putting get-rich-quick people and schemes out of business. Shrewd, resourceful, "wise" to all the tricks of the fraternity of crooks, a regular Sherlock Holmes in running down criminals, the Coast Inspector has made his division one to be avoided by those who would use the mails in their efforts to defraud the public.

Not long ago orders went out from Washington for a simultaneous and country-wide raid upon fake medicine concerns, quack doctors who were a menace to the public and other similar gentry who were using the mails to promote their plans. Inspector Hall had been gathering evidence for months. The result was that in his division his postoffice inspectors nabbed twenty-two of the malefactors. Then there was a fight in the courts. Those who had been arrested counted upon getting off with comparatively light fines. But Hall and his men had line up their evidence so well that when they went into court and showed the dangerous character of these quacks, the judge, after conviction, gave one of the men a year in jail at hard labor and added a heavy fine for good measure.

"And," said Hall this morning, smiling his genial smile, "the rest of them are getting ready to plead guilty, now that they see what they are likely to get."

Inspector Hall has played a prominent part in many sensational exposures of swindling schemes unearthed by the postal officials. In fact, if he wished to be could spin off detective romances by the hour. However, what seems to appeal to him more than the romance of this detective work in the fact that all the time the postoffice department is serving the people by giving better and safer service. He is one of the men who have helped Postmaster-General Hitchcock put an end in the last three years, to fraudulent schemes that had robbed the American people of more than one hundred millions of dollars of money.

MR. AND MRS. GEORGE P. CASTLE announce the engagement of their daughter Margaret to Mr. Alfred M. Tozzer, assistant professor of anthropology, Harvard University.

## EASTERN STAR HOLDS BIG BANQUET

The reception banquet of the Leialoha Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, was held last evening in the Masonic temple, there being present the members of the three chapters of that order in Honolulu.

The hall was beautifully decorated for the occasion with palms and ferns, the work being done under the direction of Sister Emma L. Crabbe. Following a short business meeting of the Leialoha Chapter, the guests adjourned to the dining room for the banquet, during which several talks were made by a number of the members. The principal address of the evening was that given by Mrs. M. Alice Miller, Most Worthy Grand Matron of the order, who is in Honolulu on a visit. Several toasts were given. M. P. Robinson responding for the Leialoha Chapter and Dr. M. S. Fairweather for the Harmony Chapter. Mrs. Miller and her party leave for Hilo and the Volcano tomorrow morning, where an inspection of the chapter in Hilo will be made. She will return to Honolulu February 8.

## FISHER REPORT DELAYED

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ditions thrown together in two weeks. The President would be absent in Panama, and he would hold them until after January 1. At the least Mr. Taft could read the entire matter the day after New Year's and transmit such portions as he desired to Congress for action.

"That bunch of transcripts is fully twenty four inches thick," said Secretary Fisher to the Star-Bulletin correspondent, early in January. "It is such an undertaking that I have not even begun looking it over and digesting it. I have no idea now when I will be able to perform this task. I hope to begin within a brief period but it will be some time before my recommendations can be completed."

The Secretary waved his hand in the direction of a big batch of paper, which apparently was the transcript.

It follows that the report and recommendations of Secretary Fisher may not be available in time for action at this session of Congress, there being less than eight weeks of time remaining.

Contractor Marshall put a large gang to work on the new street construction in the Punchbowl tract at Iolani and Magellan avenues this morning.

## GOVERNOR WILL TAKE UP HILO MATTER

Based on the report of Sanitary Inspector D. S. Bowman, which came to Dr. J. S. B. Pratt this morning and a copy of which has been placed in Governor Frear's hands, recommendations for a general overhauling of the Hilo county jail will be sent to the supervisors on the Big Island by the Chief Executive. The governor made the announcement to the effect this afternoon.

While his suggestions will contain no threat of territorial interference in a county matter the Governor's communication will urge the supervisors to take immediate action to remedy conditions in the bastille which Inspector Bowman reports are extremely bad, from a health and sanitation standpoint.

Though Bowman's report of his investigation was not made public this morning it is understood to emphasize the need of immediate improvement, though placing no blame on any particular official. While none of the illness in the jail now is thought, by Bowman, to be due to the inadequate accommodations, the latter might cause an outbreak of a virulent disease almost any time.

Among other things the report states that the prison is over-crowded. It is built to accommodate something like forty-three, but there are about seventy-two inmates compelled to exist within its confines.

"It is evidently a condition that has been permitted to grow unnoticed, probably largely because the supervisors have never had their attention called to it in very strong terms," said the governor. "But since the wave of public sentiment has developed, demanding improvement, it looks like it is up to them to make some kind of change."

"I have no present intention of doing more than call their attention to the matter. I believe that is all that will be necessary. Their good sense will dictate the rest."

## BLACK CAT POPS IN ON ACCOUNT OF WITCHCRAFT

Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution held a very pleasant and instructive joint meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Cooke last evening. The notorious Salem witchcraft was the topic of the evening and a very interesting paper was read by Miss Lawrence on this subject. She presented to her hearers the atmosphere of the times and the most peculiar idea which the people of the eighteenth century held of the devil. Just to add spice to the topic of the evening a black cat ran through the hall as Miss Lawrence was reading the portion of her paper telling the forms that the devil took.

W. R. Castle followed Miss Lawrence with a talk on witchcraft of the period. He called attention to the prevailing idea that New England and Salem held the palm for all witchcraft follies. He then pointed out the error of this impression. Punishment by death for witchcraft was general throughout Europe in the seventeenth century. The last witch was put to death in Aberdeen, Scotland, in the latter part of the eighteenth century. Pope Innocent issued a bull against the practice of witchcraft and in every European country many people were put to death as either witches or wizards.

The last known case of capital punishment for witchcraft was in Peru as late as 1838. This seems unbelievable, but is nevertheless true.

The literary program was interspersed with musical numbers by Mrs. Howard, Mr. Love, Miss Kemp and Mrs. Westervelt.

## PERSONALITIES

MRS. L. L. LA FIERRE, has returned from an extended visit to the mainland.

MR. AND MRS. C. D. LUFKIN of Walluku, Maui, are back from a visit to the mainland.

MR. AND MRS. BARRY are registered at the Young and will make a short visit. They came from Hamilton, Ontario.

R. GAUMONT, a well-known moving-picture manufacturer, is a visitor to Honolulu as a passenger in the liner Wilhelmina.

MR. AND MRS. MARK DOBERTSON are back from a honeymoon spent on the mainland. They returned in the Wilhelmina this morning.

B. C. STEARNS, is an arrival from the coast this morning to take up his duties with the Star-Bulletin. Mr. Stearns was accompanied by Mrs. Stearns.

Mrs. F. T. Warriner, wife of the master of the United States lighthouse tender Kukui, was among the passengers to arrive this morning in the steamer Wilhelmina.

DR. AND MRS. J. W. ROSS of Chicago were members of a select party of travelers who arrived in the Wilhelmina this morning. They will make an extended stay in the islands.

O. G. PICKLE, who takes over the management of the Federal Wireless Company plant in the islands, was a passenger in the steamer Wilhelmina this morning. Mrs. Pickle, accompanied her husband.

GEORGE DAVIS, general manager of the Alcazar theater of San Francisco, accompanied by Mrs. Davis and Miss Fanchon Davis are visitors to

## SUPREME COURT CHECKS LABOR OF PRISONERS

"People who are getting all stirred up over alleged labor of prisoners and who are calling for 'prison reform' might look up the well-known supreme court decision on the subject," said a territorial official this morning.

"I notice the morning paper says there is no reason why the territory should not have laws permitting jailers to work county prisoners on public works 'without securing the written consent of the lordly vagrants,' etc. Well, there is a supreme court decision on the subject, and as Governor Frear is quoted this morning on the subject, it might be interesting to see what he, the chief justice of the territory, said about prison labor in 1905. It will be found on page 186 of Volume 17, Hawaiian reports."

The decision referred to is "in the matter of the application of Wong Lung for a writ of habeas corpus." The case was decided November 22, 1905, the supreme court, consisting of Chief Justice Frear and Justices Hartwell and Wilder, holding as follows:

"Inasmuch as punishment—unlawfully imposed by jailer on misdemeanant—

"Compelling a prisoner to go through public streets and labor on the public parks in public view in jail uniform, though not striped, is infamous punishment, and cannot lawfully be imposed on one convicted of a misdemeanor, even on the pretense that it is for the health or distinguished from the punishment of the prisoner; but the fact that such misdemeanor is subjected to such punishment by the jailer, without authority of law, does not entitle him to a discharge on habeas corpus, at least when the unlawful punishment was inflicted only for a brief period and had ceased sometime prior to the application of the writ."

"The Virginian" Stock Company's BEST PRODUCTION

Owen Wister's "The Virginian" lost nothing by the method in which the World's Fair Stock Company presented it at the Bijou last night. In this production which burns from start to finish with the thrills of the west, Miss Virginia Brissac, as Molly Wood, the eastern school marm, James Dillon, as the Virginian, and J. W. Wray, as Tampus, gained new laurels by the manner in which they handled their parts.

Wray's acting of the role of Tampus, the western bad man, and the villain of the plot, was undoubtedly the finest piece of work which he has done since the company's arrival in Honolulu. Tampus is not the type of ordinary villain which one finds in the every day novel, but simply a born cattle thief whose one object is to "get" the Virginian. His grudge against the Virginian starts when he is made to acknowledge himself a liar before the other cowboys, and continues throughout the play until his "bluff" is called by the Virginian in the last act. There is perhaps no other member of the company who could have "done the justice to the role which Wray did."

A strain of comedy ran through the entire play, provoked by the presence of four cowboys, friends of the Virginian, and the mix-up of the babies in the first act brought down the house. Rodney Brandt, who took the part of Steve, the friend of the Virginian, who turned cattle thief, was among those whose acting was above par. In his scene with the Virginian after he has been caught by the vigilance committee, there was a perfect silence throughout the crowded house, and after he had been led away to pay the penalty which was inflicted upon cattle stealers in those times, and the Virginian read his note which said, "I couldn't say good-by to you without playing the baby," there were many in the audience who felt the same way about it as Steve did.

It was the last part of the final act which caused a nervous tension among those who saw the play. This act was perhaps the best played of the four and when the lights were lowered to signify the close of day, the time set by Tampus for the Virginian to leave the town, and when the former started, gun in hand, to "get" his enemy, the audience was on edge and it was not until the curtain had dropped with a bang that anyone started to leave.

That the play will meet with unbounded success this week is the opinion of those who saw it last night, and many who have seen the play on the mainland when Dustin Farnum made it famous declare that the production last evening was every bit as good.

The islands, as passengers in the Matson Navigation steamer Wilhelmina.

W. HUSSMAN, an arrival in the Matson Navigation liner Wilhelmina this morning, has been appointed general freight agent for the Hilo Railway. He is accompanied by Mrs. Hussman, and will take up his new duties at once.

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES B. HALL, were numbered among the large list of returning passengers in the steamer Wilhelmina this morning. Mr. Hall visited the coast on a business and pleasure trip, having been absent from the island for some weeks.

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RESOURCES.	LIABILITIES.
Loans, discounts and over-drafts.....\$177,492.11	Deposits.....\$527,512.79
Due from banks.....233,750.98	Due to banks.....146,168.01
Fixtures and furniture.....15,799.31	All other liabilities.....5,444.42
All other resources.....185,776.28	
Cash.....66,307.35	
\$679,126.13	\$679,126.13

I, Yu Akai, Manager of The Yokohama Specie Bank, Ltd., Honolulu Branch, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

YU AKAI

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of January, 1913.

DAVID L. PETERSON,

Notary Public.

First Judicial Circuit, Territory of Hawaii, 5449-34.

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